REMARKS

The present application is related to GBS toxin receptors, fragments thereof, and related compositions. The present application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/359,167, filed July 21, 1999.

Prior to the present Second Preliminary Amendment, Claim 1 was pending in the present application. By the present Second Preliminary Amendment, applicants cancel Claim 1 and add new Claims 2-22. The amendments do not introduce any new matter. Support for the new claims is found throughout the application, particularly in Claims 33-36, 46, 78 and 81 originally filed in the parent U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/359,167 (group III claims pursuant to a Restriction Requirement issued in the parent application). Support for the new claims is also found throughout the specification, for example, on pages 25-26 and in Examples 3 and 4.

CONCLUSION

Applicants assert that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the application be passed to issuance. If the Examiner believes that any informalities remain in the case, which may be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or that there are any other issues which can be resolved by a telephone interview, a telephone call to the undersigned agent at (404) 815-6102 or to Jamie L. Greene at (404) 745-2473 is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 11-0855.

Respectfully submitted,

Elena S. Polovnikova, Ph.D.

Glena S. Kolonikoa

Patent Agent Reg. No. 52,130

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP 1100 Peachtree Street; Suite 2800 Atlanta, Georgia 22100-0202 Our Docket: 49530-299673